

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the HDL model [utilises] utilizes the standard HDL values and a strong signal on the bi-directional pin is replaced by a Z in said applying step.

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6. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein any output from said model has a drive strength greater than said reduced drive strength.

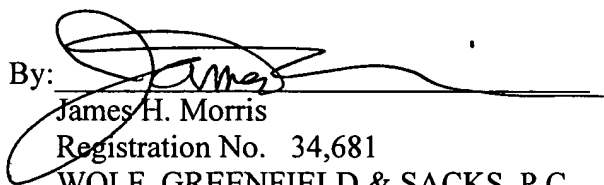
9. (Amended) A computer program comprising program code [means for performing] that, when executed on a computer, perform any of the steps of any of claims 1 to 6.

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REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment in which the claims have been amended to place them in better form before initial examination by the Examiner. Favorable action is hereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
James H. Morris  
Registration No. 34,681  
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02210  
Tel. (617)720-3500  
Attorneys for the Applicant(s)

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